

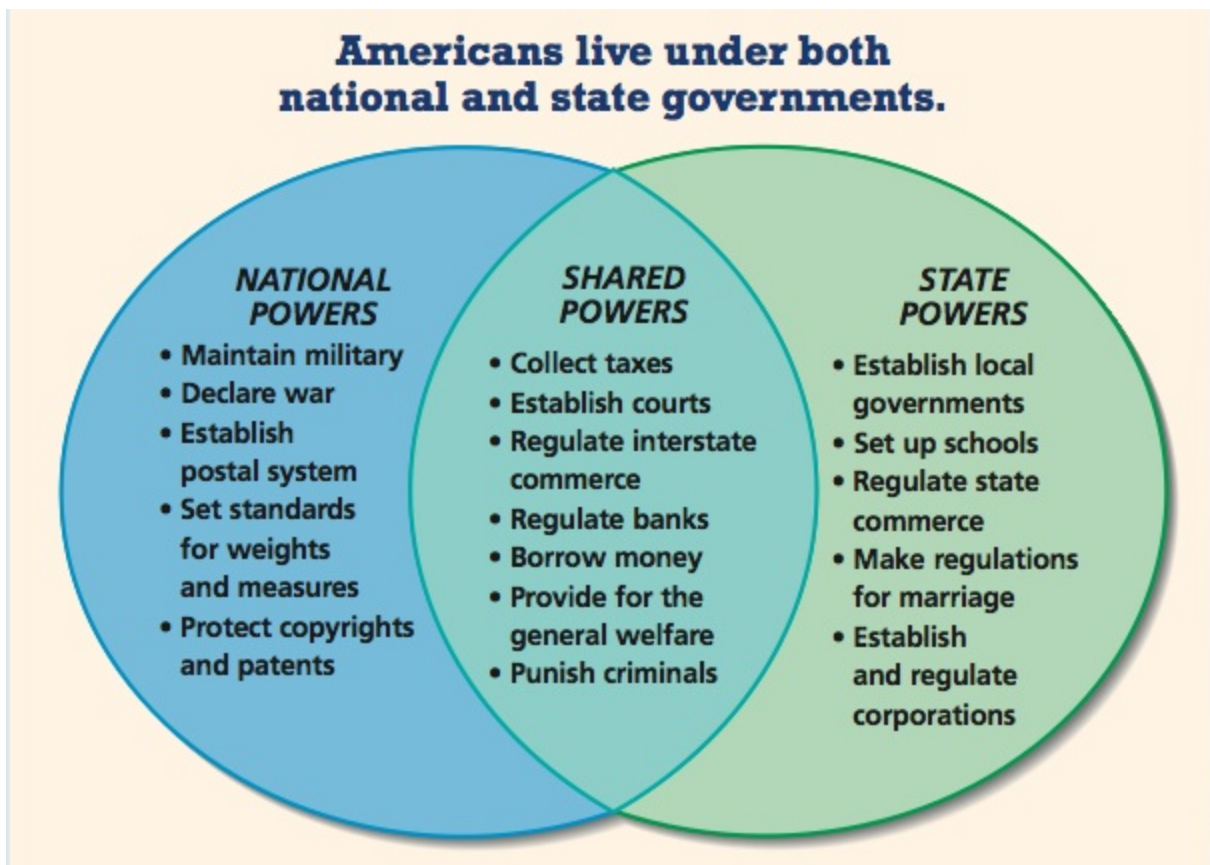
Review 6 Big ideas and Constitution

- **Limited Government** states have the some of the power so the federal government is not too powerful.
- **Republicanism**, meaning the right of the people to vote for representatives
- **Balance of Power** relating to the **checks and balances** that can be made on the other branches
- **Federalism** meaning power is shared between the national and state government
- **Separation of Power** relating to the three separate branches of government
- **Popular sovereignty** meaning rule by the people
- Some say Big 7 ideas which includes: Individual Rights - Bill of Rights

Summary and Definition of Popular Sovereignty

In the United States of America all political power resides in the people. The American people are sovereign. Popular Sovereignty is a doctrine or belief that government is created by and subject to the will of the people. The word 'popular' in this context means representing or adapted for the benefit of the people. The United States of America is a 'Sovereign State' meaning a state which administers its own government, and is not dependent on, or subject to, another power such as a monarch. Also refer to Popular Sovereignty and Slavery.

Limited Government: The Supremacy Clause ensures that the Constitution is the highest, or supreme, law. The Tenth Amendment gives some power back to the states, though only those powers that were not already granted to the federal government. The Constitution's separation of powers further operates to limit governmental powers.



Confederation vs Federalism vs Republicanism

Political system of any country is very important as it determines not only the power system in country but also the status of relationship with other countries. Many political systems prevail all over the world. Confederation, Federalism and republicanism are few well known political systems. A large number of countries are republic countries, while countries working under other systems also exist. However, a common person cannot differentiate between them. Here we are mentioning some basic differences between them, which will makes things easy for a common person.

Confederation

A political system in which **political units unite for common action permanently** is called Confederation Units of confederation often adopt a common constitution and they have same currency, foreign policy and defense system. In this system, **central government provides**

support to all units. Confederation word is also used in meanings other than political. Sports confederations are common all over the world.

Federalism

Federalism is another political concept in which units are bound and important matters are governed by the representative head. In this system **sovereignty is divided among the** provinces or **states and central governing authority**. European federalism and Canadian federalism are famous all over the world.

Republicanism

In republican system, **head of state is appointed by elections**, instead of heredity. Laws are passed by the leaders of the country for the benefit of entire state. In republic system, ordinary citizens are chosen by the people and they manage the state for a definite period of time. However, risk of corruption is more in this system.

Confederation vs Federalism vs Republicanism

All these are three different political concepts, which are prevailing in different countries of the world. Confederation is a political system, in which provinces, states or other units unite permanently. On the other hand in federalism powers are divided among the units but important matters are governed by the political head of the country. In republicanism head of the state is choose by elections, instead of any other method of selection. In confederation, central government provides support to the other units, while in case of republicanism provinces have their own rights in most of cases and central government cannot interfere in their matters. Most of the countries in the world are republic, while European and Canadian federalism are famous all over the world. In confederation and federalism chances of corruption are really less if we compare them with republican system. These are the few basic differences between these political systems.

Separation of Powers Provisions in the Constitution

Article I, Section. 1:

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Article II, Section. 1:

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.

Article III, Section. 1:

The judicial Power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

Article I, Section. 7:

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills. Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States: If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law....If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Constitutional Convention Compromises:

New Jersey Plan:

- ▶ One house legislature (unicameral)
- ▶ Equal representation in Congress
- ▶ Supported by smaller states who feared losing power in federal the federal government

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Virginia Plan:

- ▶ Two house legislature (bicameral)
- ▶ Representation to Congress based on population
- ▶ Supported by larger states

THE GREAT COMPROMISE:

- Two house legislature (bicameral)
- Equal representation in the upper house of Congress (Senate)
- Representation in the lower house of Congress (House of Representatives) to be proportional to population

Southern States:

- ▶ Wanted slaves counted as population to determine representation in the House of Reps.
- ▶ Opposed counting slaves for the purpose of determining taxation

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Northern States:

- ▶ Opposed counting slaves as population to determine representation in the House of Reps.
- ▶ Favored counting slaves for the purpose of determining taxation

THE 3/5th COMPROMISE:

- 3/5th of slaves counted as population in determining representation to the House of Representatives
- 3/5th of slaves would be counted for the purpose of determining taxation

State's Rights Supporters:

- ▶ Wanted state legislatures to elect the president
- ▶ Favored a shorter presidential term
- ▶ Favored limits on number of terms served

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Federal Power Supporters:

- ▶ Wanted direct election of president by qualified voters
- ▶ Favored a longer term of service
- ▶ Favored no limits on number of terms

PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE:

- Indirect election of the president by the Electoral College
- 4 year terms of service
- No limits on number of terms**

**Presidential terms would be limited to two by the 22nd amendment in 1951

Federalists:

- ▶ Favored ratification of the Constitution
- ▶ Favored a powerful federal government
- ▶ Argued a Bill of Rights was not needed, as federal power was limited
- ▶ "The Federalist Papers"

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Anti-Federalists:

- ▶ Opposed ratification of the Constitution
- ▶ Wanted a weak federal government that would not threaten states rights
- ▶ Wanted a Bill of Rights to declare and protect the rights of the people

RATIFICATION:

- Federalists promise addition of a Bill of Rights
- Ratification succeeded, new government formed 1789
- James Madison drafts 10 amendments to the Constitution, these become the U.S. Bill of Rights

